REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel claims 1-15 and 18-31, which were allowed in the parent application. No admission as to any unpatentability is intended.

In the event there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to the account of Blank Rome, LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (116741-00237).

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Michael C. Greenbaum
Reg. No. 28,419
Attorney for Applicants

BLANK ROME LLP
600 New Hampshire Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20037
(202) 772-5838 (Phone)
(202) 772-5858 (Facsimile)